

REMARKS

Upon entry of this amendment, claims 3-6, 11, 30, and 31 are pending in the present application and are under examination. Claims 13-16 are canceled without prejudice. Applicants reserve the right to prosecute claims of similar or identical scope to that of any canceled claims in a future applications.

New claims 30 and 31 are added to clarify the subject matter claimed. The claim is fully supported by the originally filed specification, including original claims. See, for example, the 5th paragraph under the section "SUMMARY OF THE INVENTION."

The Advisory Action asserts that the proposed claims 13 and 16 lack antecedent basis by reciting "said polypeptide." The Advisory Action also alleges that proposed claim 13 presents new matter by reciting "wherein said antigen does not comprise a sequence motif for an HLA-DR protein containing the core MHC binding residues," and "wherein said polypeptide binds to said HLA-DR protein."

While not addressing the merits of these rejections, Applicants have canceled claims 13-16 without prejudice, thus these rejections are rendered moot.

Applicants submit that all amendments to the claims and the new claim are fully supported by the instant specification. Applicants respectfully request the Examiner to enter the amendments to the specification and claims as presented herein.

Applicants also respectfully request the Examiner to enter the arguments presented in the response filed on June 17, 2004 in light of the current pending claims, and reconsider and withdraw the rejections of the Final Office Action.

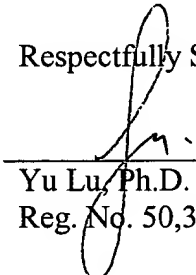
CONCLUSION

In view of the foregoing amendments and remarks, Applicants submit that the pending claims are in condition for allowance. Early and favorable reconsideration is respectfully solicited. The Examiner may address any questions raised by this submission to the undersigned at 617-951-7000. Should an extension of time be required, Applicants hereby petition for same and request that the extension fee and any other fee required for timely consideration of this submission be charged to **Deposit Account No. 18-1945**.

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Respectfully Submitted,



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